

## **OLD MAIN**

Knox College, Galesburg

The oldest building at Knox College, this handsome Collegiate Gothic Revival structure is the best-preserved site associated with the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858. The fifth of the seven debates between noted Democratic senator Stephen A. Douglas and his Republican challenger, Abraham Lincoln, took place here on October 7. The debates highlighted the momentous issues carrying the nation toward disunion and civil war. Lincoln lost the election but achieved national attention because of his stance, expressed here, that slavery was a moral, not a political, issue.